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THE LEGISLATURE.

The School District System---The Northampton Depots---The Equalization of Bounties Opposed---A Labor Bill Killed.

From Our Special Reporter.

BOSTON, Friday night, April 20.

One of the debatable matters in the Senate, today, was the school district system. The bill in relation to the taxation of shares in corporations, for school district purposes, was rejected on report of the committee, for the reason, mainly, that by its passage it would encourage the continuance of the district system, which it was desirable should be done away with. The bill concerning the distribution of the income of the school fund, containing a provision to discourage the district system, occasioned the prolonging of the debate. This bill provides that in the distribution of the moiety of the fund, every city and town complying with the laws, shall receive annually $75, providing also that after 1869, no town that retains the district system shall receive the sum specified. It was objected that this method of coercing towns should not be resorted to, but that if the district system is bad, it should be abolished directly. A motion to strike out the provision above named was lost, 7 to 20, when the bill was ordered to be engrossed.

The amendment to the bill concerning the railroad depots in Northampton, and providing that both depots shall be either on the east or the west side of all the tracks, brought down a delegation in opposition, and when the bill came up again a motion was made to strike out the amendment. Mr Gillett, in defense of the amendment, said the people of Northampton had long desired a change in the depot of the Connecticut River railroad, deeming it unsafe, and they feared that under the bill, without the amendment, the evil would be continued. It was said in opposition to the amendment, that the parties in interest were all satisfied with the bill as it was, and the location of the new depot, as proposed, was designated as to be nearer to the junction of the two roads, with a covered way to the depot of the other road. A motion to recommit was carried 18 to 13, which will probably require a further hearing.

In the House, this forenoon, a bill was reported authorizing cities and towns to construct tracks for street railways, and to license parties to run cars upon them under such regulations as they may prescribe, but shall not interfere with existing tracks, in licensing others to run on them or take them up to be replaced by others. The fare on all roads shall not exceed the highest rate allowed by chartered companies, and shall include all taxes. Reports were also made of bills in relation to suits by and in behalf of the commonwealth, and authorizing the appointment of an assistant attorney general. Among the engrossed bills were those for the establishment of a state workhouse, and to extend the time for the location of the Northampton and Williamsburg street railway; and the report inexpedient relative to amending chapter 160 of the general statutes, concerning sentence of death, was accepted.

The bill to equalize the bounties to soldiers, especially assigned, was further considered. Mr Jewell of Boston opposed the bill at some length, as not called for through any legal obligations of the commonwealth, as not a bill to equalize bounties to soldiers, and a measure which the treasury of the state could not well bear under the present already heavy debt. Mr Jewell was plied with numerous questions by friends of the bill, but evidently made a strong impression upon the House. The bill was further debated in the afternoon, when Mr Sherman of Lawrence moved an amendment providing that on investigation by the executive council if the sum shall not exceed $5,000,000, the bill shall go into effect, but otherwise it shall go over to the Legislature of next year for further action. The bill was reassigned to Tuesday next.

The bill concerning hours of labor, as unfinished business, was taken up. The amendment of Mr Sherman to make the bill to include manufacturing corporations, and other amendments, were rejected, when there being no further disposition to debate the subject, the bill was refused a third reading, by a vote of 52 yeas to 109 nays. The only western member noticed as voting for the bill was Mr Jones of Pelham.

CITATION (AGLC STYLE)
Springfield Republican (online), 21 Apr 1866 4 <https://infoweb.newsbank.com/apps/news/document-view?p=AMNEWS&docref=image/v2%3A11BC3DF3E61E32B5%40EANX-12A5AD01C326B359%402402713-12A10ECCC92A83A5%403-12A10ECCC92A83A5%40>
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